

August 15, 2011

Hon. Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Hon. Michael Copps, Commissioner
Hon. Robert McDowell, Commissioner
Hon. Meredith Attwell Baker, Commissioner
Hon. Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners,

The New York Urban League views AT&T's announced acquisition of T-Mobile USA from Deutsche Telekom as potentially benefitting communities, consumers and workers alike. We are hopeful that this merger will increase the access for our community to wireless broadband, a tool needed in our community to increase access to knowledge, promote skills based learning and greater civic engagement. Access to affordable and sustainable wireless broadband services will promote job creation and empower members of our community.

NYUL, along with the National Urban League (NUL), recognizes that the merger has earned the support of many labor and civil rights organizations. AT&T's Public Interest Showing contains many points that resonate with NYUL & NUL: it encourages the full participation of all Americans in our digital society through job creation; supplier diversity, and increased opportunities for broadband adoption in minority communities. Following the recommendation of the NUL, NYUL believes these are exactly the key points the Commission should focus upon as the highest priorities in its own public interest analysis. NYUL also looks forward to the increased opportunity for minority business enterprise in the development of the 4G Network.

We also note that AT&T has developed an admirable record in diversity, and has a longstanding relationship with NUL, and many of its affiliates including NYUL. AT&T's New York State President of External Affairs recently served on NYUL's Board of Directors. Most notable is AT&T's progressive record in the supplies and workforce diversity arenas.

The New York Urban League, Inc (NYUL) is a non-profit organization founded in 1919 and incorporated in the State of New York in 1920. The League was founded by an inter-racial group of concerned New Yorkers in response to the difficulties faced by African Americans migrating from the agricultural and rural south, to the industrial, urban centers of the north. The NYUL, led by Arva Rice, President and CEO, is headquartered in Harlem, New York and has offices in Staten Island, Queens, and the Bronx.

Today, the mission of the New York Urban League (NYUL) is to enable African Americans and other underserved communities to secure a first class education, economic self-reliance and equal respect of their civil rights through programs, services and advocacy. Over its 90 year history, the NYUL has been at the forefront of change, from leading efforts to create a public school system in New York to developing street academies that served nearly 2,000 young people to advocating on behalf of workers

who found themselves unemployed due to egregious acts of discrimination and a slow job market to negotiating the opening of employment for blacks in the airline, brewing, and baking industries. The League has built a legacy and continues its service along that path today. The NYUL serves Queens, Staten Island, Brooklyn, Bronx, and the Harlem communities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (212) 926-8000 ext. 145.

Sincerely,



Arva R. Rice
President & CEO